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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia**DATE DISTR.** 14 Jan 1955**SUBJECT** Factories Producing Strong-Current
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1. Four groups of national enterprises were engaged in the production of strong-current electric machinery and large apparatus. They were:
 - a. V. I. Lenin Works (formerly Skoda Works) ET (Electric Factory) in Pilsen-Doudlevec.
 - b. CKD Stalingrad in Prague-Vysocany.
 - c. Various MEZ (Moravian Electric Plants) enterprises.
 - d. BEZ (Bratislava Electric Works) in Bratislava.
2. Following is a list of the individual enterprises, their former ownership, main production, and approximate number of employees, when known:
 - a. V. I. Lenin Electric Factory had approximately 3,500 employees and produced:
 - (1) All types of large machinery, including mining machinery, large motors for rolling mills, and turbine generators.
 - (2) Small motors for rolling mills.
 - (3) Electric tractions of all types.
 - (4) AC commutators, three-phase, Schrage type (rotor-fed).
 - (5) Large apparatus.
 - b. CKD Stalingrad produced:
 - (1) Large machinery of all types. This production was not as important or voluminous as similar production at the V. I. Lenin Works.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

25X1

- (2) Large mercury rectifiers. CKD Stalingrad was the only Czechoslovak plant for this production.
- (3) Diesel-electric tractions of all types. This was the only Czechoslovak plant for this production.
- (4) Transformers.
- (5) Various large apparatus, such as contactors and expansion switches.
- (6) Probably traction equipment for trolley buses and street-cars.

c. Various Moravian Electric Works - MEZ.

In early 1946, a group of electrical engineers left the former Bata Works in Gottwaldov, moved to Frenstat pod Radhostem (N 49-33, E 18-13), and founded, in the vacant premises of an old factory, a new factory for the production of electric machinery under the name MEZ, National Enterprise, Frenstat. At the same time, this group made an effort to combine all the small enterprises for the production of strong-current electric machinery throughout Moravia into one concern. This consolidation took place about the middle of 1946 when MEZ, National Enterprise, was founded with its general management located in Olomouc. There were about 15 plants, varying in size and importance, subordinate to the MEZ general management. Most of them were located in Moravia, a few in Bohemia, and one or two in Slovakia. Ing. Kral (fnu), a former Bata employee, was the general manager. His deputy was Ing. Miroslav Smok, who became general manager in 1947 after the departure of Kral.

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The general management attempted to organize all the various plants into one unit. Central offices for purchases and sales were set up within the general management and a central plant for research and development under the name MEZ Vyvoj (Development) was established in Olomouc and later in Brno. A central office for MEZ standards was also established;

General Manager Smok tried to introduce Bata methods of production organization into the MEZ plants although he, himself, was not a former Bata employee but was the former manager of the Vsetin electric machinery factory which later became MEZ Vsetin. In general, the general management performed useful work from which both the individual plants and the industry as a whole profited. As a result of the general reorganization of Czechoslovak economic ministries, the MEZ general management was liquidated in 1949. The individual MEZ plants became independent enterprises with no organizational alliance and only their names in common. Following is a list of MEZ enterprises. there may be one or two very small factories not listed here.

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- (1) MEZ Vsetin, National Enterprise. This was originally the J. Sousedik firm which was founded around 1900. About 1935 the factory became the property of a Brno bank; later, still before World War II, the plant was incorporated into the Ringhoffer Tatra concern which became the Tatra concern after World War II. During all this time the factory bore the name J. Sousedik and, after World War II, J. Sousedik, National Enterprise. About the middle of 1946, the factory was removed from the jurisdiction of the Tatra concern and reorganized into MEZ Vsetin, subordinate to the MEZ general management

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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- 3 -

in Olomouc. The factory employed approximately 2,500 workers and produced the following:

- (a) DC machinery in medium sizes only, except traction motors. This was the only Czechoslovak factory for this production, except for occasional production at V. I. Lenin or CKD Stalingrad.
 - (b) Induction-wound rotor motors, in medium sizes only. This factory manufactured the bulk of Czechoslovak products of this type.
 - (c) AC commutator motors with accessories, in medium sizes only. This was the only Czechoslovak factory for this production.
- (2) MEZ Frenstat, National Enterprise, in Frenstat pod Radhostem. This enterprise was founded under its present name by former Bata employees in early 1946. The factory had approximately 1,000 employees and produced the following:
- (a) Induction squirrel-cage motors.
 - (b) Synchronous motors of medium size. This was the only Czechoslovak factory for this production.
- (3) MEZ Mohelnice, National Enterprise, in Mohelnice (N 49-47, E 16-55). This enterprise was a [redacted] plant founded, most probably, during World War II. The enterprise produced induction motors of small size, up to about 10 kw. maximum. It was the only Czechoslovak factory for this type of motor and production was performed on conveyor belts. The plant employed approximately 800 workers. 25X1
- (4) MEZ Drasov, National Enterprise, in Drasov (N 49-20, E 16-29). [redacted] plant. The production was based, for the most part, on drawings and blueprints of [redacted]. The factory had 800 employees and produced the following: 25X1 25X1
- (a) Totally enclosed induction motors; the bulk of production was in this factory.
 - (b) Low-voltage generators for galvanizing. This production was done at MEZ Trebic (N 49-13, E 15-53) before it was liquidated in 1951. MEZ Drasov was the only Czechoslovak factory for production of generators up to 3,000 amp.
 - (c) Various special motors designed on order.
- (5) MEZ Zidenice, National Enterprise, in Brno-Zidenice was formerly called the Elektromotor Svet firm. [redacted] The factory produced the following: 25X1
- (a) Induction single-phase motors, in medium sizes only, such as those used in refrigerators.
 - (b) DC motors and generators; diameter of armature from eight to 16 cm.
 - (c) AC three-phase commutator motors of the Winter-Eichberg type, in medium sizes only. Types No. 16, 19, and probably 25, were produced. (Numbers indicate the outer diameter of the stator lamination in centimeters.)

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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- 4 -

- (d) In addition to the machinery of medium size mentioned in (a) through (c), this factory produced larger machinery, such as DC machinery, diameter of armature 20 cm., marked TDN 20 when generator and TMN 20 when motor, and commutator motors, type 25 and 31.5 cm. All of the larger machinery production was transferred to MEZ Vsetin during 1953 because MEZ Zidenice received a new production program. It was rumored that this new program included items which had been produced by MEZ Nachod (N 50-25, E 16-10), which was allegedly over-worked. Until the end of 1952, MEZ Zidenice also produced amplidynes for which the preliminary design was made at MEZ Vsetin. They were physically designed in MEZ Vyvoj and mass-produced in MEZ Zidenice. During 1953, this production was also transferred to MEZ Vsetin.
- (6) MEZ Nachod, National Enterprise, in Nachod, formerly the ATAS (A. Teichmann and Company) firm, was known for its accurate and clean production and was the only factory of its type in Czechoslovakia, with the exception of the PAL Enterprise in Kromeriz (N 49-18, E 17-24), which produced dynamos and starters for motor vehicles. MEZ Nachod produced small machinery, mainly:
- (a) Universal motors, DC and AC, such as those used in vacuum cleaners.
 - (b) Single-phase induction motors.
 - (c) Self-synchronous motors.
- (7) MEZ Brumov, National Enterprise, in Brumov (N 49-06, E 18-02). Construction of this factory began in 1947 on the premises of the local Administration of State Farms and was completed in 1949. Until 1952 the factory was a branch plant of MEZ Vsetin. This was the only factory in Czechoslovakia for production listed under (a) and (b) below and was the only factory in Czechoslovakia which produced the items listed under (c) and (d) below, except for occasional production at CKD Stalingrad and the V. I. Lenin Works. The plant employed approximately 800 workers and produced:
- (a) DC welding apparatus, 400 amp. and probably 600 amp. Welding apparatus was designed in CKD Stalingrad and MEZ Vsetin.
 - (b) Welding transformers.
 - (c) Commutators.
 - (d) Brush holders.
- (8) MEZ Postrelmov, National Enterprise, in Postrelmov (N 49-55, E 16-55). The enterprise had a branch plant in Zabreh (N 49-53, E 16-52) which was probably the former Zkrat firm; however, this branch plant was insignificant. The factory produced panels and various large apparatus, such as rheostats, switches, breakers, and similar items.
- (9) MEZ Krompachy, National Enterprise, in Krompachy (N 48-55, E 20-52). This factory was founded in 1947 and produced small apparatus (no measuring instruments) using bakelite. It was planned to produce regulating resistors.

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 5 -

25X1

- (10) MEZ Vyvoj (Development) in Brno. This was the former Klima firm which produced small electric equipment such as drillers. MEZ Vyvoj designed electric machinery, apparatus, and entire electric installations, mostly in the field of strong-current electricity. There were about 200 employees; 50 were workers and the remainder were technicians.

d. BEZ Bratislava, National Enterprise, in Bratislava.

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this was a relatively unimportant enterprise.

3. The following is a listing and description of the most important of those factories whose production was closely related to the factories for the production of strong-current electric machinery and large apparatus:

- a. EZ (Elektromontazni Zavody - Works for assembly and installation of electric equipment), National Enterprise, in Prague. In addition to actual assembly and installation of electric equipment, this enterprise prepared the drawings for complete electric equipment installations, assisting all factories mentioned above, except CKD and V. I. Lenin Works, which had their own departments for this work. EZ in Prague had a department for light industry, a department for heavy industry, and, originally, a department for power installations. Later, the activities of the latter department were transferred, most probably, to Energoprojekt. EZ in Bratislava had no department for drawing plans for complete installations; all such drawings were made by the Prague enterprise. EZ in Bratislava had, in addition to an assembly department, a ship department with a branch office in Komarno (N 47-46, E 18-08). It was planned to make the Komarno branch an independent EZ enterprise

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Originally, customers placed their orders for strong-current electric equipment with the EZ enterprises only, these enterprises passing the orders to the respective factories for machinery production and then assembling and installing the equipment. The EZ enterprises were considered to be the suppliers of the equipment and therefore were held responsible for it. This practice, although it seemed to be satisfactory, was changed about two years ago. Since that time, the EZ enterprises have continued to make drawings for installations and perform assembly of equipment as before, but only advised the customers where to order the machinery; the customers placed their orders with the factories for machinery production themselves.

- b. Kablo, National Enterprise, in Kladno, Prague-Hostivar, and Bratislava, supplied all types of cables, dynamo wires, and dynamo belts to the factories for machinery production. Kablo, National Enterprise, in Topolcany (N 48-34, E 18-11) produced mainly carbon anodes for electric furnaces, and carbon brushes.
- c. Various Krizik National Enterprises produced electric apparatus of low output, regulating equipment, and electronic and non-electronic servomechanisms. There was a Krizik enterprise for development in Prague-Karlín.
4. All the factories for the production of strong-current electric machinery and large apparatus, as well as related industries, were subordinate to the Main Administration I of the Ministry of Heavy Machinery Construction, later the Ministry of Machinery Construction, located in Prague II, Palacky Square. The Main Administration was

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 6 -

25X1

reorganized about two years ago so that each official in an individual enterprise had his corresponding superior in the Main Administration, e.g., a chief engineer, chief designer, chief technologist, etc.

5. The executives of the Main Administration followed the activities of the enterprises which belonged to their particular field and went to the factories to make inspections. There were also inspectors with the Main Administration who were assigned to one or more particular enterprises. These inspectors visited the factories more frequently than the executives and their task was to ascertain and/or investigate the failures or defects which might be present in production.
6. The chief of the inspection department in an enterprise, who also supervised the chief of the testing shop, was not subordinate to the manager of the enterprise in certain of his activities [redacted] but was directly subordinate to his supervising executive at the Main Administration. This was done in order to counter the usual practice of an enterprise manager's disregarding the quality of production or production procedures in order to fulfill planned production quotas. 25X1
7. There was a development department in the Main Administration which was originally an independent unit but became subordinate to the chief designer in 1953. The task of this department was to supervise and follow the development activities of the enterprise and authorize the financing of particular development activities, all of which had to be in connection with a particular customer's order. The actual money, however, came from enterprise funds established for this purpose.
8. Burio (fnu), an electrical technician [redacted] was chief of the Main Administration I. Kvet (fnu) [redacted] was chief engineer. Krehlik (fnu) was chief designer. 25X1

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